Chronology Report of Ute Tribe during 1961 . . .

EDITOR'S NOTE — This year we extended an invitation to the Ute Indian Tribe to submit a chronology report of activities engaged in during the year 1961. This will replace the usual report we have published from the files of the Standard during the year about to come to an end . . . The copy was prepared by the Community Services office under the direction of Francis McKinley, director.

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January

Members of the Uintah and Ouray Tribal Business Committee, wearing full tribal costume, attended the presidential inauguration ceremonies and participated in the colorful and historical parade in the Nation's Capital.

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February

The redesignation of Indian Water Rights is underway on the Reservation. It has been many years since this has been done and many pieces of land have water and are not arable. Other tracts of land could be farmed if water was available.

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The Land Operations Department, in cooperation with the Ute Indian Tribe, has been locating and establishing reser- This will promote the development and administering of these acquired lands. Descriptive and informative road signs have been placed. These signs are of special value to sportsmen and tourists in locating points of interest.

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March

Two men and one woman were elected to the Ute Tribal Business Committee. Mrs. Juanita Groves was elected to represent the Uncompahgre band; Harvey Natchees was elected to represent the Whiteriver Band.

The election returns showed that the heaviest vote was made by the Uncompahgre voters. Officials said the Uintah and Whiteriver bands had approximately a five percent increase in voters over previous voter participation.

For the first time in Ute history the election saw the candidates carry on an active campaign for office.

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Francis McKinley, Director of Community Services for the Ute Tribe was one of the featured speakers at an Indian Youth Conference held at the Black Hills Teachers College, Spearfish, South Dakota, April 7-8, 1961.

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Members of the Uintah and Ouray Tribal Business Committee met with the five man task force studying the organization and program of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Phoenix, Arizona on March 24, 1961.

The Task Force was composed of W. W. Keeler, chairman, who is the executive vice president of Phillips Petroleum Company; Philleo Nash, former Lt. Governor of Wisconsin, (who is presently Commissioner of Indian Affairs); James Officer, Arizona Anthropologist; William Zimmerman, Jr., former assistant commissioner of Indian affairs; and John O Crow, present acting commissioner of the Indian Bureau.

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The Restraining Order on Rock Creek Cattle Association and the Antelope Sheep Corporation stock sale was lifted. This stock represents interest in some 172,461 acres of range land which will be offered to members of the Affiliated Ute Citizens and the Ute Indian Tribe.

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Johnny Cesspooch, 118 pound Bantam weight of the Ute Boxing Club, dropped a close decision to the 1960 National AAU Champion in the 1961 Golden Gloves Western Division Tournament at Chicago. However, Johnny was awarded the Hal Dade Sportsmanship Trophy for his performances during the Golden Gloves Tournament. He was also selected on the 2nd team of the Chicago Golden Glovers who contested with the New York City team in an inter-city bout on March 19 at the Chicago Stadium in Chicago.

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As a result of so many requests, according to a spokesman for the State Education headquarters, a special re-telecast feature entitled Utah Indians Today", was presented to TV viewers March 16. A significant feature of the program was a short review of some of the development and self-improvement programs of the Ute Indian Tribe.

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Members of the Tribal Business Committee attended the Fishery Conference which was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 8, 9, and 10. Much vital information which can be used in the overall Land Operations and Fish Management programs of the Ute Tribe was gained inasmuch as the Ute Tribe is improving a number of recreation areas and carrying on a fish planting program under the U. S. Wildlife Service.

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April

Ute Tribe Huskies became champions of the 1961 Basketball Tournament of Tribal Champions, defeating the Fort Washakie, Wyoming Indians in a thrilling overtime game.

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The Ute Tribe has acquired a controlling interest in the Rock Creek Cattle Association and Antelope Sheep Range Company. These two livestock companies were organized by the Affiliated Ute Citizens to administer the lands which had been apportioned to them as a result of the division of assets between the mixed-bloods and the full-bloods. The Ute Tribe has purchased all of the stock that has been offered for sale so far.

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Harvey Natchees, A World War II hero who received national recognition as the first American soldier to enter Berlin, was elected by acclamation as chairman of the Uintah and Ouray Tribal Business Committee. This action followed the reorganization of the Tribal Council as the result of the Tribal election March 13.

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Carma Longhair and Julia Tabbee represented the Ute Tribe at the Southwest Indian Youth Council in Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 14 and 15. The girls were chosen to attend because of their excellent attendance at Union High School. Many subjects were discussed on Indian problems pertaining to education.

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June

Beginning June 6 some 46 youngsters of pre-kindergarten age attended an 8-week session of training designed to enable them to start kindergarten on a par with their white neighbors. Their training consisted of classes which would enable them to make an adjustment to formal classroom training.

The Uintah Youth Camp opened its summer session June 8 with some 90 youngsters between the ages of 8 and 18 participating in a summer of schooling and recreation. The camp was directed by Pete Couch of the University of Utah.

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A resources conference held during June brought out the fact that the resources, present and future, on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation may afford opportunities for both individual and tribal enterprises for a large number of people.

Six Utes graduated from the Union High School this spring. They are Florence Ankerpont Mills, Dorothy Jenks, Rufus Starr, Julia Tabbee, John R. Cesspooch, and Maxine Natchees. Azelea Arkansas graduated from high school in North Carolina and Duane Accutoroop graduated from an Oakland high school.

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July

Stella LaRose, Harriett Taveapont, Juanita Groves and Joan Noble attended the Chicago Indian Conference June 13-19. Abandonment of the so-called termination policy and the adoption of a broad education program were two of the most important general recommendations made to the United States Government for future Indian policy at this conference.

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The Ute Indian Tribe and the Utah State University held an event filled three-day encampment for Ute Indian women at the Uintah Youth Camp July 19 to 21. This is the third year for the women's encampment. This encampment enabled the women to escape tedious household chores and demands of their families, including the head of the household and think of only themselves.

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Sparked by President Kennedy's Peace Corp proposals, a unique domestic kind of student service to Indian communities known as the Peacepipe Corps has been developed by the Harvard University Indian Project in cooperation with the Association on American Indian Affairs. The Ute Tribe was one of the several fortunate Indian tribes to receive students from the Harvard University and Radcliffe Colleges. Four students spent the summer on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation assisting in the capacity for which they were best qualified and trained.

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The Ute Tribal Council made its annual visit to the Central Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. May 16-18. Revision of the Ute Tribe's Constitution and Corporate Charter and the question of changing program goals toward emphasis on the development of tribal enterprises were the chief topics of discussion. Tribal delegates reported the confab at Washington as being a success.

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Selected to attend a 4-H Leadership Conference because of their leadership role in the county were Floyd McCook, Dianne McCook, Julia Tabbee, Millicent Natchees and Willard Gardner. This conference was held in Logan during the week of June 5-9. Floyd was nominated for Mayor of the group; Milicent as Mayorette and Julia was their campaign manager. Dianne was chosen as a hostess and Willard as a host for a smorgasbord party held. The young people at the conference were praised very highly for the way they "took right ahold and followed through on their leadership responsibilities of the conference".

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Representatives of the Ute Indian Tribe participated in the dedication of the new addition to the Ute Indian Museum at Montrose, Colorado June 11. The Ute Indian Museum at Montrose is located on a farm formerly owned by Chief Ouray and his wife Chipeta. It also is the last resting place for Chipeta and her brother John McCook. The museum is maintained by the Colorado Historical Society.

As their contribution to the dedication ceremonies, the Utes, under the direction of Harvey Natchees, presented war dances, round dancing, the Grouse dance and the Ute Bear Dance.

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Assorted legal documents, historical papers, testimonies, and court records which have

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been accumulated over a period of 26 years in the successful prosecution of a large number of claims by the Confederated Ute Bands were presented to the Brigham Young University Library by members of the Ute Tribal Council on behalf of the Ute Indian Tribe. These documents comprise claims against the Federal Government largely as a result of agreements and treaties entered into by the Ute tribe and the Government between 1848 and 1882. The presentation was made by Harvey Natchees and received by Dr. Ernest L. Wilkinson, president of the Brigham Young University.

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August

The Pageant "Hiawatha", presented by the Ute Tribe as a highlight of the Annual UBIC had a cast of some 70 Utes in Full Tribal Dress. A huge crowd of spectators applauded the colorful and unique presentation with its additional dances done by both young and old.

An outstanding patriotic float, done in Red, White and Blue symbolized the theme of the convention which was "Freedom or Communism, What Shall We Do?" was entered in the parades by the Ute Recreation Department.

Glenda Reyos was named Indian Princess with Delila Duncan and Charlene Noble as her attendants to occupy places of honor along with Mary Jane Anderton, UBIC Queen.

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The Uintah and Ouray Tribal Business Committee recommended approval of the 1962 Fiscal year budget of the Roads Division of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, of $280,000. Main projects to be completed soon are the Whiteriver Bridge and the Whiterocks Loop Road.

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Archeologist Gordon Grosscup of the University of Utah, reported several interesting finds in diggings at two primitive Indian sites in the Hill Creek area. The finds were made during excavations at Bolton Springs and at a cave located at the mouth of Jenny's canyon.

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Four hundred and ninety former members of the Ute Indian Tribe known locally as the "mixed-bloods" severed their ties with the Federal Government, as wards of the government, on August 27 at midnight as a proclamation by Interior Secretary Stewart Udall went into effect. This proclamation was the final act of a step by step termination of Federal Supervision over the affairs and property of each member of the Ute Tribe with one half degree Ute blood and some full blood members who elected to join the group.

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September

Per Capita payments amounting to $800 each were authorized to be paid to each member of the Ute Tribe, beginning with a $100 payment beginning October 15.

High bonus bids for oil and gas drilling rights netted the Ute Tribe some $444,022.12 when bids were opened September 6. Some 72 tracts of land were offered in the vicinity of Duchesne city and 59 of them received bids.

Members of the Tribal Business Committee, Ouray McCook and Harriett Taveapont attended the NCAI Convention held in Lewiston Idaho September 18 through 22.

The Roosevelt Stake cannery came into use for some 39 Ute women who canned fruits, vegetables and meats for winter use.

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October

Educators from 18 foreign countries toured the Ute Reservation on Tuesday, October 17. They are attending the University of Utah as Fulbright-Smith Scholars during the winter quarter.

They visited the Todd School, and an Indian home. Then a barbequed venison luncheon at Fort Duchesne was followed by an entertainment by Ute Dancers and singers.

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Philleo Nash was appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The appointment was announced simultaneously with the appointment of John O. Crow, former Superintendent of the U & O Agency, as deputy commissioner.

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Farm leaders met in Fort Duchesne to plan expansion of the Tribal Farm Enterprize. An executive committee composed of top spectialists in their respective fields were called to form the committee.

Members of the Tribal Business Committee attended the National Congress of American Indian Convention held at Lewiston, Idaho.

The Whiterocks Gymnasium complete with the several acres of ground will be presented to the Uintah School District by the Ute Tribe.

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November

The Annual Holiday Tournament, sponsored by the Ute Tribe Recreation Department has been set for December 27, 28, and 29. Preliminary games will be played at the Randlett Gym with the finals at the Whiterocks gym.

Connor Chapoose, Ute Leader, was found dead in his pickup truck, November 7, cause of which was a cardiac attack, according to a local doctor. Currently serving as chairman of the Advisory committee of the Tribal Farm, Mr. Chapoose had served the Tribe in various capacities for more than twenty years.

The Welfare Committee which is chairmanned by Mrs. Juanita Groves has made a recommendation to the Tribal Business Committee that some homes for the aged be constructed and managed by the Tribe.

Whoever does a thing best ought to be the one to do it.

A lie adds variety to life, but subtracts from its safety.

The gods cannot help a man who wastes opportunities.